

**Desk Statement – Late release of scope documents for first 10 chemicals.**

“EPA will be releasing the scope documents for the first 10 chemicals to undergo risk evaluations under the Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act at the same time that EPA releases the Lautenberg framework rules. We believe that the public will benefit from releasing the scopes at the same time as the rules because the scopes reflect our first efforts to implement the new risk evaluation process and the framework rules provide important context for that work.” – Nancy Beck, Ph.D.

**BACKGROUND:**

On December 19, 2016 EPA announced the first 10 chemicals for risk evaluation under amended TSCA. EPA previously indicated we would publish a scope document within six months after initiation of a risk evaluation, or by June 19, 2017. EPA has determined not to publish these scope documents on June 19, but rather to hold them to be released concurrently with the Prioritization and Risk Evaluation process rules, (i.e., the Framework Rules). The Framework Rules are required to be published on June 22, 2017, one year after the statute was signed into law, and lay out the process by which EPA will designate a priority chemical for risk evaluation, and the subsequent risk evaluation process (including scoping). Because the 10 scopes reflect EPA’s first efforts to implement the new risk evaluation process and the Prioritization and Risk Evaluation Rule provide important context, EPA believes that both the Agency and the public will benefit from their concurrent release with the Framework rules.